

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

Independent Claims 1, 2, 3, 8, 13, 14, 15, and 16 have been amended to clarify an important and patentable distinction between the claimed inventions and Torigoe (U.S. Patent No. 4,822,975) relied upon in the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Claims 17, 19, 20, and 22 have been amended to avoid the issues raised in the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, but that rejection is respectfully traversed, because the "rotating" is described in the original specification on page 67, line 20 ("rotated"), and because the reticle blind 8 in Fig. 9 constitutes a stop that can properly be described as a field stop.

With regard to the amended independent claims, note the description bridging pages 69-70 of the specification. The independent claims have been amended to recite "a time synchronization trigger method", which distinguishes patentably from the position synchronization trigger method described in Torigoe. Accordingly, all of the claims now presented are believed to be allowable.

This application is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been requested separately, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NHS:sjk

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